



Responsible practices: implementation challenges for agri-business companies in Central Africa

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On the menu

- Agri-business companies
- Responsible Practices
- Challenges
- Way forward





Agri-business plantations in Central Africa



Farming categories

■ Family farming

- 0,5 ha < 5 ha < 10 ha
- Permanent labour = family
- Food crops +/- cash crops



■ Small and medium business farming

- 10 ha < 100 ha < 600 ha
- Permanent employees
- Local value chain



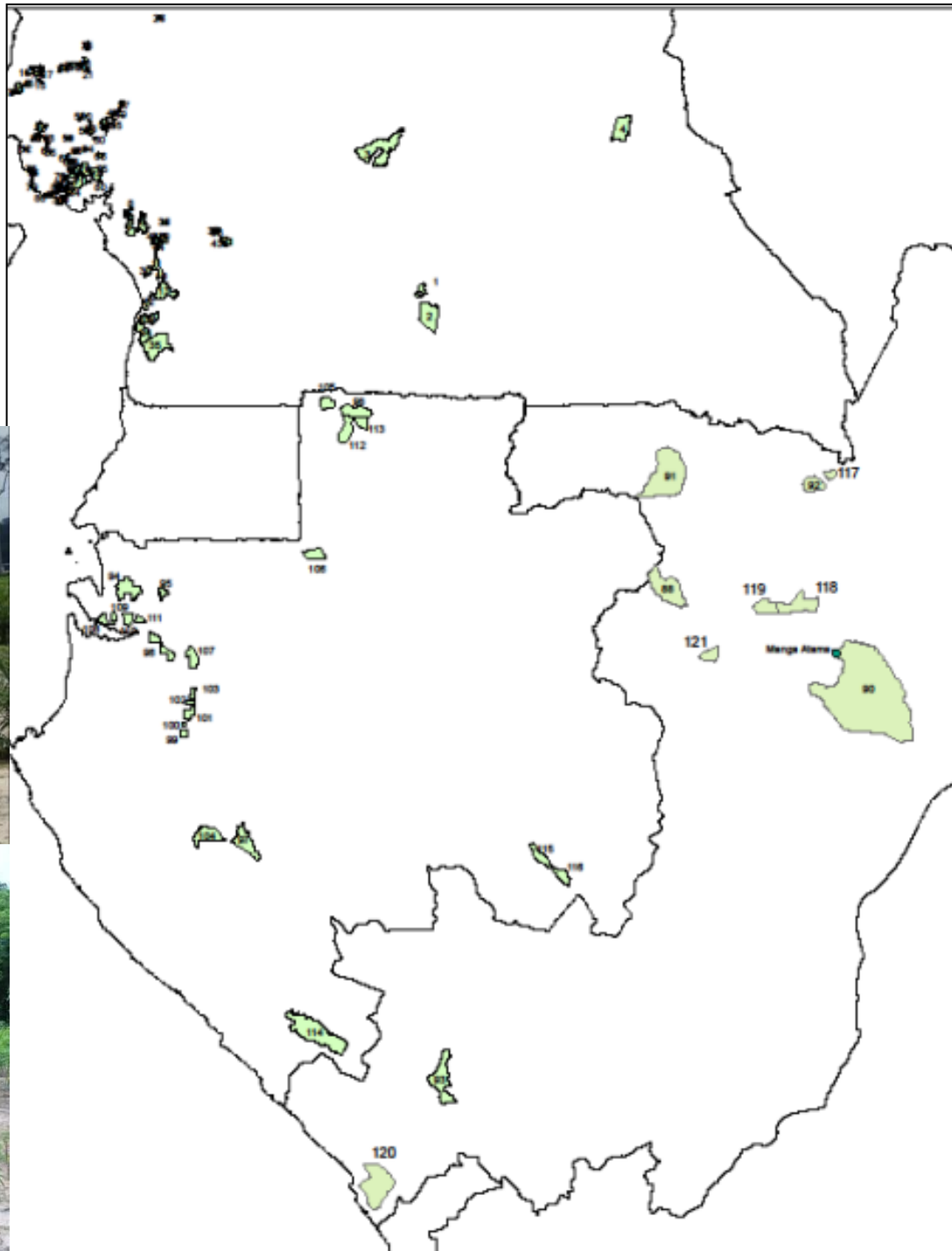
■ Agri-business, industrial farming

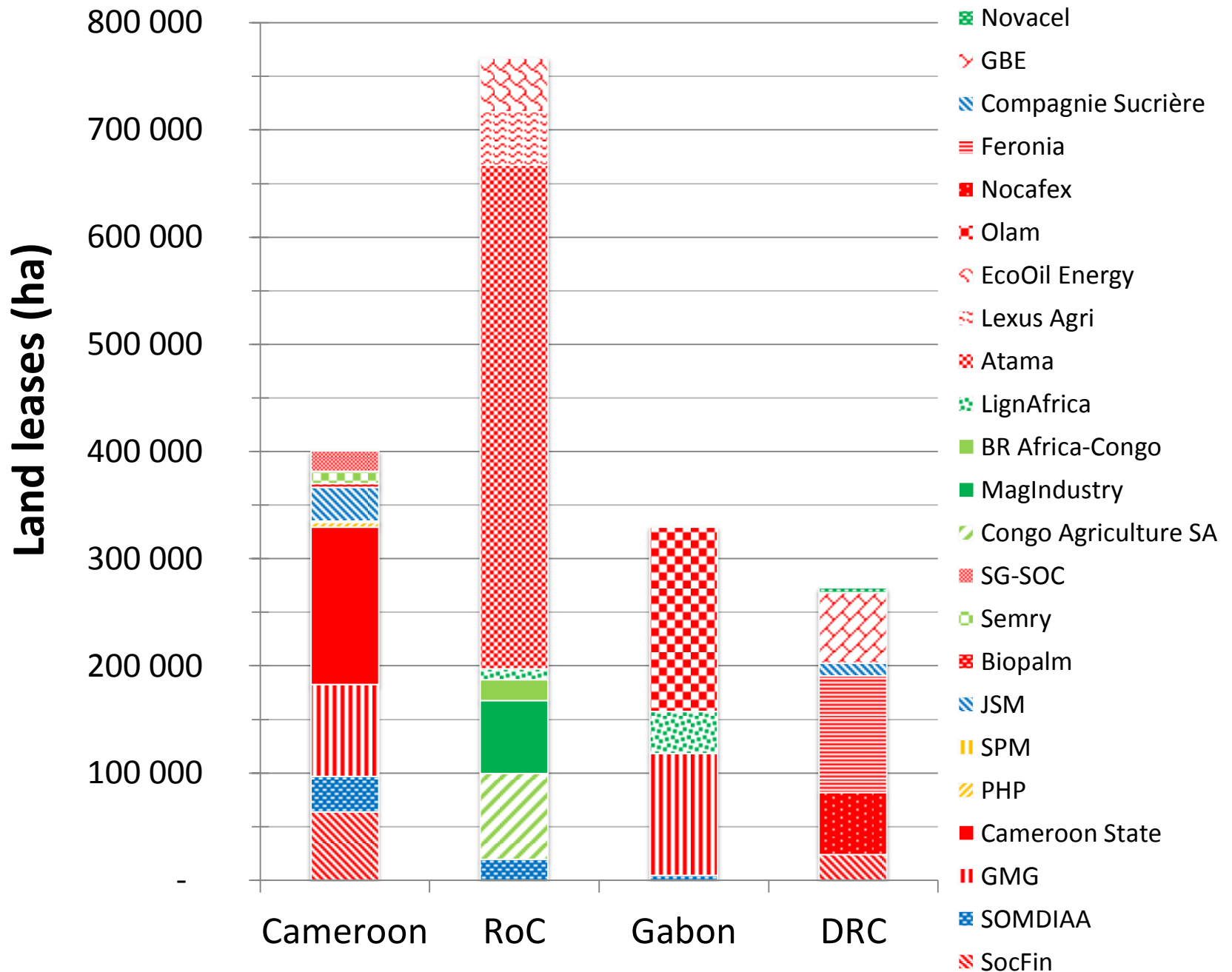
- 1 000 ha < 300 000 ha
- Domestic or foreign enterprises, multinationals
- National market and export



Industrial plantations

1,7 Mha in large agriculture land leases







Responsible Practices



International standards and initiatives

- 1976: OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
 - Corporate Social Responsibility principles
- 1997: Global reporting initiative
 - Sustainability and transparency
- 2000: Global compact
 - Human rights, corruption, environment
- 2003: Equator principles
 - Environment, Social and Governance criteria in finance
- 2010: ISO 26000
 - Corporate Social Responsibility
- 2012: Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests
 - Land tenure security

Responsible practices

■ Objectives:

- limit financial and reputational risks,
- ensure sustainability (long term profit)

■ ESG commitments, CSR policies

■ Certifications

- Protected Designation of Origin
- Sustainable farming, Organic farming
- Rainforest alliance

■ Sector specific:

- FSC, PEFC
- RSPO, RSB
- Buyer specific: Starbuck

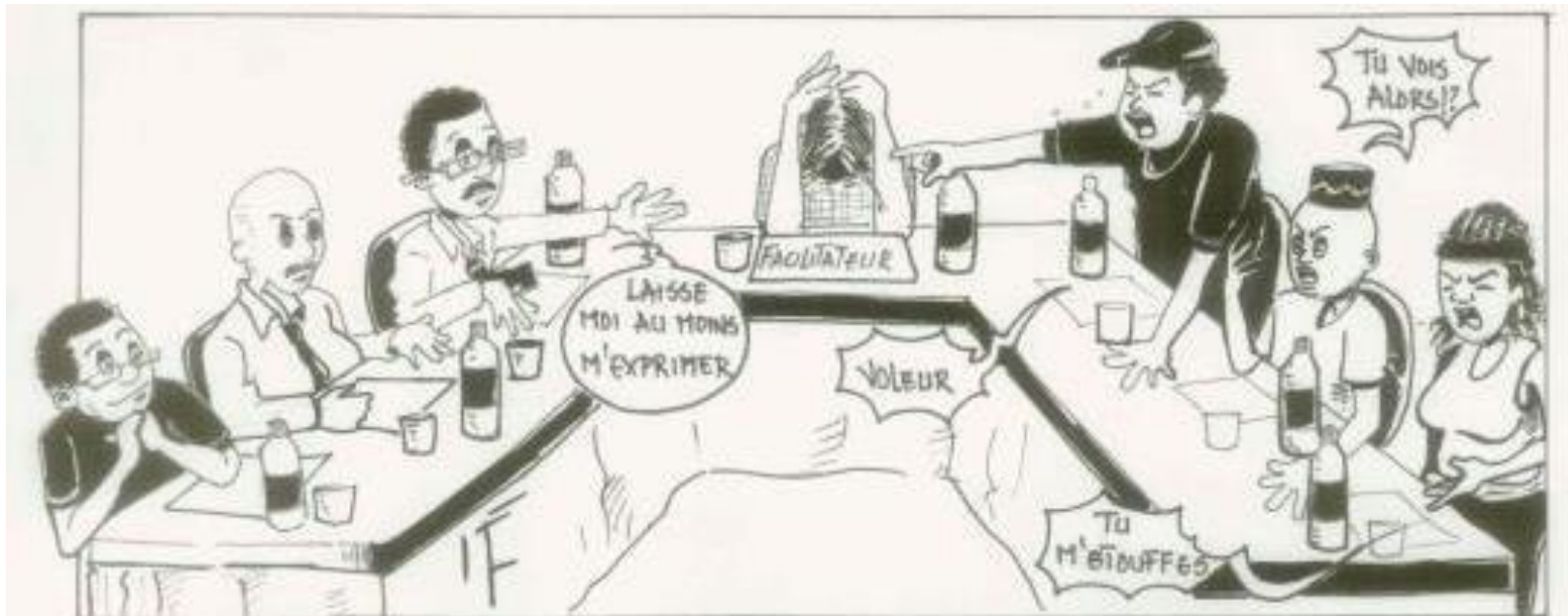


Challenges



Challenges

- Legal framework: unclear, unprotective, incomplete,
- Lack of enforcement,
- Secrecy, bad habit,
- Historical burden,
- Mistrust





Way forward



Way forward

- Protect from abusive investments and speculation on land:
 - Contract
 - business plan, operational plan,
 - CSR policy
- Adaptation of the legal framework and regulations
 - Secure access to land, enforce laws,
 - Guarantee the expression or refusal of FPIC
 - Enforce ESIA and impact management controls
- Organization of farmers, of value-chains

Way forward

- Common understanding of difficulties and opportunities
- Partnership contract
- Organized communication:
 - Representatives,
 - Meetings,
 - Reporting, publications, medias...
- Transparency, Trust



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